

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

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FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MX

SUBJECT: REPORTED STATE DEPARTMENT STUDY OF IMPACT OF
ILLEGAL ALIENS ON JOB MARKET

REF: LUERS/LANE TELECON

1. SHORT ARTICLES APPEARED SUNDAY, JULY 18, IN THE
WASHINGTON POST AND THE NEW YORK TIMES ON THE SUBJECT
OF THE THREAT WHICH ILLEGAL ALIENS POSE TO THE JOBS OF
AMERICAN WORKERS. THE ARTICLES WERE BASED ON AN ALLEGED
STATE DEPARTMENT STUDY "RELEASED" BY REPRESENTATIVE
MARIO BIAGGI (DEM, N.Y.).

2. THE ACTUAL STUDY IN QUESTION IS A CASE STUDY DONE BY
JOHN KARKASHIAN FOR THE FSI SENIOR SEMINAR, AS AN
EDUCATIONAL EXERCISE. THE STUDY IS NOT A STATEMENT OF
DEPARTMENT POLICY.

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3. THE TIMES ARTICLE DID NOT MENTION MEXICO. THE ONLY MENTION OF MEXICO IN THE POST ARTICLE WAS THE FOLLOWING. QUOTE: MORE THAN 87 PERCENT OF ALL ILLEGAL ALIENS ENTERING THIS NATION IN 1975 CROSSED THE MEXICAN OR CANADIAN BORDERS. UNQUOTE. THIS STATEMENT IS BASED ON INS FACTUAL RECORDS OF APPREHENDED ILLEGAL ALIENS.

4. THE TEXT OF THE POST ARTICLE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: A STATE DEPARTMENT STUDY ON ILLEGAL ALIENS SAYS THAT ALMOST 30 PERCENT OF THOSE APPREHENDED IN 1975 WERE EMPLOYED AND NEARLY HALF OF THESE WERE EARNING ABOVE THE MINIMUM WAGE. -

THE STUDY SHOWED THAT ONE-FOURTH OF ALL EMPLOYED ILLEGAL ALIENS RECEIVED THEIR PAY IN CASH AND PAY NO FEDERAL, STATE OR CITY TAXES.

REP. MARIO BIAGGI (D-N.Y.), WHO RELEASED THE REPORT YESTERDAY, SAID IT "CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THE VERY REAL THREAT" WHICH ILLEGAL ALIENS POSE TO THE AMERICAN WORKERS IN TERMS OF JOBS LOST AND TO THE NATION'S ECONOMY IN TERMS OF TAX DOLLARS LOST.

"IN ADDITION TO MORE THAN 3 MILLION ILLEGAL ALIENS EMPLOYED IN JOBS, IT IS FURTHER ESTIMATED THAT THE ANNUAL WAGE LOSS TO AMERICAN WORKERS CAUSED BY ILLEGAL ALIEN EMPLOYMENT IS AS HIGH AS \$10 BILLION," BIAGGI QUOTED THE REPORT AS SAYING.

ALMOST 45 PERCENT OF THE ILLEGAL ALIENS WITH JOBS ARRESTED LAST YEAR WERE EARNING SALARIES ABOVE THE MINIMUM WAGE, BIAGGI SAID. THE STUDY WAS DONE BY THE FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

HE SAID THE FINDINGS SHOW AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION HE HAS INTRODUCED TO MAKE IT A FEDERAL CRIME TO HIRE ILLEGAL ALIENS. THE BILL WOULD ALSO PROVIDE MORE IMMIGRATION SERVICE ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY ALONG THE US BORDERS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MORE THAN 87 PERCENT OF ALL ILLEGAL ALIENS ENTERING THIS NATION IN 1975 CROSSED EITHER THE MEXICAN OR CANADIAN BORDERS. THE REPORT SAID 500,000 FOREIGN TOURISTS BECOME ILLEGAL ALIENS ANNUALLY AND AS MANY AS 30 PERCENT OF ALL ILLEGAL ALIENS APPREHENDED ARE REPEAT VIOLATORS. - UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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